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The Canadian INDIA TIMES

(The National Voice of Indo-Canadians)

Established in 1967

New Citizenship Act proclaimed

Ottawa - Canada's new nationality act has been proclaimed and becomes law today, Secretary of State John Roberts has announced.

The new act has been described as a liberal, logical and equitable piece of legislation which has removed the inequalities and inconsistencies of the Citizenship Act of 1947.

Mr. Roberts underlined that the law is "new and unique, not just a revision of the old Act, and one that will make Canada a leader in the field of nationality law."

Under the new legislation, applicants for citizenship will be treated alike, regardless of sex or country of origin. All applicants for citizenship will follow the same procedures: fulfillment of the residency and other requirements, examination by a Citizenship Judge and pledging the Oath of Citizenship. The residency requirement has been reduced from five years to three.

A principal feature of the Act is that citizenship now becomes a right upon satisfaction of certain conditions and cannot be arbitrarily withheld.

Other features include the provision that either parent may now apply for citizenship on behalf of a minor child. This includes adoptive parents. Under the former Act, in most cases, only the father could apply.

For the next two years, a parent may apply for citizenship for children born abroad before today to a Canadian mother. Such children are not now Canadian citizens unless their father was a Canadian at the time of their birth.

The rights of children born abroad, in or out of wedlock, are now protected. The right to citizenship will be automatic in the first generation and will be afforded to the second generation provided that by 28 years of age, the person has either resided in Canada for one year or has established "a substantial connection with Canada."

Women who did not acquire Canadian citizenship under the 1947 Act because of marriage to foreign nationals may automatically acquire it upon notifying the Minister. Previously, these women had to complete the full citizenship application procedure.

The age of application for citizenship has been reduced from 21 to 18 years of age to correspond with the voting age.

The new Act also provides for the Cabinet to reward people for special services to Canada or to relieve cases of particular hardship.

The Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi, receiving Mrs. Lillian Carter, mother of Jimmy Carter, the U.S. President, when the latter called on her in New Delhi last month.

Over 2,000 in election fray

New Delhi, Feb. 28 (Samachar) Nominations for the coming Lower House election closed on a hectic note as hundreds of contestants, including Prime Minister Indira Gandhi filed their papers in their respective constituencies.

Incomplete returns from various states at the end of the first phase of the 6th General election showed that more than 2,000 have stepped into the arena for 542 lower house seats.

Those arrayed for the battle include Morarji Desai, Jagajivan Ram, Atal Behari Vajpayee, Charan Singh, H.N. Bahuguna, Pilo Modi, George Fernandes, Jotitmoy Bosu on the one side and Mrs. Gandhi and most of her ministerial colleagues on the other. Also on the side of the Congress are two former Governors, R.D. Bhandare and Jogendra Singh, and Sanjay Gandhi.

The Congress, fielding 492 candidates, is contesting the largest number of seats leaving the remaining 50 seats to other parties on the basis of electroral adjustments.

The Janata Party has put up 394 candidates and its ally, the congress for Democracy 52. The two parties have arrived at electoral understanding with the Communist Party of India, (Marxist) in some states and with regional par like the Akali party, the Dravida Munnetra Kazhgham and the Peasants and workers Party.

According to reports, 200 nominations were filed in Gujarat, 309 in Madhya Pradesh, 103 in Kerala, 217 in Rajasthan, 167 in Punjab, 51 in Assam, 73 in Delhi and 106 in Haryana.

Opposition assailed

New Delhi, Feb. 24. Prime Minister Indira Gandhi said yesterday the opposition parties united against her were an unholy alliance and, if they toppled the Congress Party, it would weaken India.

The elections were not over the question of who should be prime minister but of India's stability and economic development, Mrs. Gandhi said on a campaign tour in Orissa state.

"How could these parties with divergent views and policies remain united after the poll?" she asked. "What would be the image of the nation if they came to power?"

The opposition parties have presented most voters with a simple choice-for or against Mrs. Gandhi.

In most seats, the contest will be a straight fight between the Congress Party and the Janata (people's) Party, a grouping of the four main non-Communist opposition parties. Janata is also allied to the Congress for Democracy, a group formed by former supporters of Mrs. Gandhi like Mr. Ram.

Export growth stable at 31 per cent

New Delhi, Feb. 25 (Samachar) The rate of growth of India's exports in the first nine months of the year has stabilised at 31 per cent despite a substantial rise in imports in recent months following liberalisation of imports of cotton, synthetic fibre and edible oils and seeds to check the pressure of internal prices.

Figures released by the Commerce Ministry showed that exports during the first nine months ending December, 1976 totalled at Rs 3,546 crores ($3940 million) out of the annual target of Rs 4500 crore ($5000 million).

Although commodity-wise, exports have considerably diversified, it is now being increasingly felt that the growth rate might soon reach a saturation point with the rising incomes and internal demands for goods. Emphasis will have to be shifted to the export of value added items, technology, projects and services for which considerable scope has begun opening up in many developing countries.

India has already made a significant beginning by securing projects contracts totalling nearly Rs. 1,200/-crores ($1333 million) this year.

Last year the country achieved an 18 per cent rise in exports in value and 6 to 7 per cent in real terms, whereas the rate of growth in world trade was confined to 6 per cent in value and negative rate in real terms.

JP ill

New Delhi, Feb. 25 - Jayaprakash Narayan, 74-year-old Indian opposition leader, was taken to hospital in serious condition today after becoming ill during an arduous campaign for coming general election.

Mr. Narayan has chronic kidney trouble and has had to spend seven hours every other day with a kidney machine.

A spokesman for the opposition Janata party said Narayan now will need an operation and has cancelled election engagements until March 2. The spokesman did not say what the operation would be for.

Narayan led a movement in opposition to Mrs. Gandhi which gained momentum in 1975. He was jailed under a state of internal emergency in June of that year and spent nearly five months in solitary confinement before being released because of ill-health.

(Reuter).

Nine per cent rise in national income

New Delhi, Feb. 25 (Samachar): The national income for 1975-76 showed an impressive rise of 8.8 per cent, according to quick estimates published by the Central Statistical Organisation.

The per capita income rose by 6.6 per cent.

During 1974-75, the national income increased by 0.2 per cent while the per capita income fell by 1.7 per cent.

The impressive rise in national income during 1975-76 was mainly due to the large increase in the production of food grains from 99.83 million tonnes in 1974-75 to 120.83 million tonnes in 1975-76. Other sectors which registered increases during the period included banking and insurance, gas and water supply, railways and mining and quarrying.

At current prices, the national income in 1975-76 stood at Rs 60,293 crore ($66880 million) with a per capita income of Rs 1,005 ($111.5). The corresponding estimates for last year were Rs 58,137 crore ($64596 million) and Rs 989 ($109.9) respectively.

Will the opposition sieze power?

By Brij Khandelwal

With the release in New Delhi of election manifestoes and distribution of tickets by various parties now almost over the mist on the political situation has started clearing.

As of today the contest appears to be mainly between the Janata Party-led combination of opposition parties and the ruling Congress, although half a dozen smaller parties too are in the field. Quite a large number of independents who are unlikely to win, but may help divide the votes, have also entered the fray.

Having learnt bitter lessons from previous elections the opposition parties this time seem determined to prevent splitting of their votes which in the past has invariably helped the ruling party to win on minority support. If they succeed on this count the margin of defeat or victory would be quite narrow which means the ruling party even if it comes to power will always be on tenterhooks.

SABOTAGE

According to informed circles the ruling party is particularly perturbed over reports of planned sabotage of its election campaign by the Youth Congress members who are disappointed over the high command's decision to renominate most of the sitting MPs.

Youth Congress leaders had earlier been assured that they could get at least 200 seats. But at the nick of time the CEC perhaps realised it would be a historical blunder of field light-weight Youth Congress leaders against the heavyweights of the opposition. Suddenly the worth of "old is gold" is being realised by the ruling party. In any case it would have been a folly to reject experienced and seasoned fighters who definitely have a better record of service and sacrifices than the youth leaders nurtured in a permissive political climate.

Old and discarded elements one thought politics had got rid of are back in the forefront of the election battle. Party manifestoes released so far refer nostalgically to good old days reiterating their firm commitment to old values while party bosses dole out tickets to the tried war horses, Trojan or otherwise. The backlash of the old with such vindictiveness was anticipated by those who had been keenly watching the emergence of the socalled youth power in past 20 months.

JAGJIVAN-BOMB

Repercussions of the Jagjivan-bomb are still being felt all over. The trickle of deserters from the Congress is expected any day to become a torrent. Political observers in New Delhi believe that Mr. Ram still has a large number of his supporters in the ruling party and they can create quite a few problems during and even after the elections.

Pressures to accommodate various lobbies, interests and groups as also caste equations, on both the ruling and the opposition parties have caused unusual delay in the announcement of candidates. The actual election campaign is not likely to start before February 17 although the Janata Party started its election battle on January 30 with massive meetings all over the country. At the moment the party is primarily concerned with creating a favourable atmosphere for conduct of fair and free elections and mobilising public support for lifting of emergency and other draconian laws.

JANATA

The well-attended Janata Party meetings have naturally caused nervousness in the ruling party circles. Some observers of the election scene however fear that in days ahead the Janata Party campaign may come against heavy odds for want of resources.

Having been proved wrong in the last elections political pundits are hesitant to hazard any guess about the outcome of elections but most of them seem to admit that for the first time in the history of independent India the ruling party is poised to face a formidable rival in the Janata Party, which is now looked at more as an alternative than an opposition party. This indeed is a major political development. Both Morarji Desai and Jagjivan Ram are considered fit candidates for prime ministership.

The ruling Congress has no choice but to rely on the support of the CPI which was the target of "McCarthyism" till only the other day.

In about a week's time the election campaign will pick up. Meanwhile the Janata Party will have to keep its ranks and file in discipline, and underplay any ideological differences its constituents may try to project. The ruling Congress on the other hand will need to give more concessions to the electorate and resolve its internal contradictions.

Whatever be the verdict of the electorate at the hustings, the process that has now started indicates that democracy cannot be a loser.

NPA Feature Service.

Consultancy firms do well

New Delhi, Feb. 26 (Samachar): The development of expertise in the design and construction of industrial plants and equipment, iron and steel, dams, bridges and even nuclear reactors has been so rapid during the past decade that India is today in a position to provide sophisticated technology as well as complete plants on a turn-key basis according to a press release here.

Indian consultancy firms have already executed a number of international projects in various industrial fields like textiles, paper and hard board, cement and cement products, electric fans, sewing machines, bicycles, sugar and light and medium structural fabrications. Turn-key projects have been taken up for high tension power transmission lines, complete power transmission lines, complete power sub-stations, pipelines for gas and petroleum.

Indian consultancy firms in the public as well as private sectors have built up an "intermediate technology" which is highly suitable for developing countries of the world. The export of Indian consultancy services has also grown speedily. Turn-key projects have been taken up in many African and West Asian countries as well as in South-East Asia. In the public sector, the National Industrial Development Corporation has provided turn-key services to Tanzania, Zambia and Guyana in small scale industries. Complete industrial estates are being set up in these countries. The Engineering Projects (India) Limited has also supplied complete industrial plants to other nations and a whole new city is being built by them in Kuwait.

Workers participation to cover 2.5 million

New Delhi, (Samachar): Two and half million industrial workers have been covered under the Government of India's voluntary scheme of "workers" participation in management" in the country.

The scheme have so far been introduced in nearly 1,500 industrial establishments in the public, private and state sectors.

According to a national survey conducted by Samachar, a remarkable progress regarding the implenentation of the scheme has been made after the announcement by the Prime Minister of her 20-point economic program in which "workers" participation in management" was included.

Spokesmen of most of the state governments conceded that there had been an alround improvement in the working of the industrial units.

Peaceful working conditions had resulted in increased production.

The scheme has been introducted in all the major industrial units of the central and the state governments. It includes the Durgapur steel plant, the Rourkela steel plant, the Bokaro steel plant and electricity boards of various states.

The workers who have been brought under the purview of the new scheme b elong to industries like steel, aluminium, copper, fertiliser, mica, cement, textiles, paper, footwear, jute, glass, fire-bricks, and engineering.

Good climate for foreign investment

Madras, Feb. 25 (Samachar): Sir Rowland Wright, Chairman of Imperial Chemical Industries, says that the economic and industrial climate in India is very encouraging for foreign investments.

Addressing the Madras Press Club here recently, Sir Rowland said that the way India had contained inflation better than Britain the remarkable growth in food and industrial production the healthy trading surpluses and foreign reserves had created international confidence in India's future prospect. The speed with which Indian economy was gaining strength and the strong resurgence and discipline in the industrial field and availability of raw materials and skills in India would attract more and more industrialists from the U.K. and other European countries despite some unkind comments in the British Press, he said.

President's medal for German painter

New Delhi, (Samachar): Elke Didschuneit (14) of the German Democratic Republic has won the President of India's gold medal in the Shankar's internation children's competition held in 1975 for the best painting "harbour".

The Vice-President of India gold medal has been won by Stephen Gerard Crittendon (12(of Australia for his written work. This is the fourth time Australia gets the award.

Seventeen countries have the distinction of their children winning the Jawaharlal Nehru gold medal.

A total of 721 children from 71 countries won prizes in the competition.

Of these 655 are for painting, and the remaining 66 go for literary entries.

Outside India (123 prizes) the maximum number of prizes have gone to Japan, where 55 children won prizes, which include one Nehru award.

With 34 prizes, Poland now takes the third place after the GDR which has 35 prizes.

Banana exports up

Tiruchirappalli (Samachar): India has stepped up her banana exports despite stiff competition from traditional banana exporters like Brazil and Ecuador, according to a spokesman of the Banana and Fruits Development Corporation.

The spokesman said the feat hac been achieved by use of advanced techniques of fruit preservation. The Corporation exported two consignments of about 2,000 tonnes of Bananas each in the last two years and had received export enquiries from some quarters.

HOUSING SCHEME SUBSIDY

New Delhi, Feb. 26 (Samachar): The Ministry of Works and Housing has released Rs. 77.50 lakhs for Tripura, West Bengal and Kerala for the subsidised housing scheme for plantation workers during 1976-77.

Bonus act provision liberalised

New Delhi, (Samachar): The Indian Government has liberalised the provision in the Bonus Act regarding liability for payment of minimum bonus.

Union Labour Minister K.V. Raghunatha Reddy said the liberalisation of the provisiot would benefit a few lakh workers.

The President last year promulgated an ordinance clarifying that bonus was payable only on the basis of profits, or production or productivity, and doing away with the earlier concept of payment of minimum bonus irrespective of profit or loss of a concern. The ordinance was later incorporated into the Bonus Act 1965.

Plan to boost indigenous medicine

New Delhi, (Samachar): The Health and Family Planning Ministry of the Indian Government has finalized a program which would enable Indian systems of medicine to play an important role in the country's health program.

The plan envisages the active participation of all the teaching staff and senior students of colleges teaching Indian systems of medicine (ISM), the conveyance of the common Indian remedies to the villages, greater participation of practioners of Indian medicine, greater production by pharmacists of indigenous medicines, large-scale collection of medical herbs and the participation of Indian systems of medicine (ISM) physicians in the family planning.

More carpet exports

Lucknow, (Samachar): The Uttar Pradesh Export Corporation has bagged orders worth about Rs. one crore ($1.1 million) for supply carpets and handicraft items to European countries, according to Small Scale Industries Minister Mohsin Kidwai.

Mr. Kidwai told Samachar recently that though India's carpet exports had shown a substantial rise, there was need to systematise the pattern of supplies.

NEUTRON LOGGER

Visakhapatnam, Feb. 26 (Samachar): The Bhabha Atomic Research Centre (BARC) has developed a "neutron logger" which has a tremendous use for exploration of oil, according to its Director Dr. Raja Ramanna.

OECD CRITICSES TRADE BARRIERS

New Delhi, (Samachar): The Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) says for some poor countries, especially India, "it is enhanced opportunity for trade in the manufactured and semi-manufactured goods which is the most important challenge to the development co-operation policies" of the industrial countries.

The more these countries adopt non-restrictive import policies, the lower will be the need for capital inflows to sustain a given level of growth by developing countries, OECD says in a report on development co-operation.

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The notes were excha... New Delhi February ... between Takashi ... Ambassador of Japan to ... Dr. Manohan Singh, S...

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Congress wins uncontested seats

New Delhi, Feb. 28 (Samachar) The first two returns from the sixth general election were within the congress grasp at the end of the scrutiny of more than 3,900 nominations filed from the 542 Lower House constituencies.

The two Congress candidates assured of unopposed election are Chhatra Bhadur Chhetri from the lone Sikkim constituency and Rinchin Khandu Khrime from the Arunachal West constituency.

While Mr. Khrime was the lone candidate for Arunachal West Mr. Chhetri was the only solitary nominee left in the field for the Sikkim seat, the nomination papers of all his seven rivals having been found invalid after scrutiny.

Reports from across the country spoke of withdrawal of at least 65 candidates, the rejection of the nominations of 35 candidates and postponement of decisions on the validity of at least six nominations owing to disputes.

Ministers seek re-election

New Delhi, Feb. 26 (Samachar): Prime Minister Indira Gandhi and all her 12 Ministerial colleagues from Uttar Pradesh will seek the people's verdict again in the coming Lok Sabha elections. The most significant inclusion in the list of candidates, released by the Central Election Committee today is that of Sanjay Gandhi who will contest from Amethi Constituency. Amethi is adjacent to the Rae Bareli constituency from where Mrs. Gandhi will seek re-election.

Sanjay Gandhi will be opposed by the Janata Party candidate, Ravindra Pratap Singh whose nomination was also announced yesterday. He is a young lawyer and has been a student leader. Raj Narain of the Janata Party will contest against Mrs. Gandhi, the Janata Party candidates to contest from Bihar include Jagivan Ram, Madhu Limaye, D.N. Tiwari, Shyam Nandan Mishra, Ramanand Tewari and Karpoori Thakur.

More mature Indo-U.S. ties envisaged

New Delhi, Feb. 25 (Samachar): John Cavanaugh, Democrat member of the U. S. House of Representatives, envisaged a "more mature and developed relationship" between India and the United States under President Carter.

Mr. Cavanaugh said his visit to India had enabled him to see "a very improving situation both politically and economically."

He told newsmen he would report favourably on India to the sub-committee on international economy and monetary policy and the committee on banking and finance, of which he was a member.

More countries buy Indian coal

New Delhi, Feb. 25 (Samachar): Three more countries from the European Common Market, Italy, West Germany and Holland have, for the first time placed orders of Indian Coal the government announced.

India has thus been successful in entering coal market of six ECM countries during the current financial year an official release said.

Italy has ordered supply of 20,000 tonnes of coal while West Germany and Holland have ordered 25,000 tonnes and 20,000 tonnes respectively. The first shipment of coal to Italy is expected to leave towards the end of this month.

Vietnam seeks Indian investment

New Delhi, Feb. 25 (Samachar): Vietnam will welcome foreign investment on principles of mutual interest and on the condition that investors respect the country's sovereignty and independence Vietnamese Premier's Special Envoy Phan Hien said.

He listed three areas in which investments would be accepted, production cooperation and production sharing, joint ventures and projects for export commodities.

Ram's party to use Janata symbol

New Delhi, Feb. 25 (Samachar): The newly formed Congress for Democracy will fight the general election on the Janata Party symbol, a spokesman announced.

The party's general secretary H.N. Bahuguna told reporters this decision had been taken because of legal compulsions. The CFD would however retain its separate identity and also have its own election manifesto, he said.

Japanese loan for India

New Delhi, Feb. 28 (Samachar) India and Japan have exchanged notes concerning the projects loan for 9 billion yen (Rs. 27.86 crores or $30.6 million at the current exchange rate) and commodity loan for 10 billion yen (Rs. 30.96 crores or $33 million at the current exchange rate) to India for 1976-77.

The notes were exchanged in New Delhi February 18, 1977 betweem Takashi Suzuki, Ambassador of Japan to India and Dr. Mamohan Singh, Secretary, department of economic affairs, Ministry of Finance.

See page 12

Teachers urged to minimise school dropouts

New Delhi, Feb. 28 (Samachar) Education Minister Nurul Hasan called upon teachers February 18 to play a "dynamic role" in promoting universalisation of elementary education and minimising the rate of school dropouts.

Inaugurating a national conference on teacher education, Prof. Hasan said the job of teacher should be to inculcate in the students the meaning of composite culture, secularism, national integration and socialism and help them develop a scientific temperament.

Shortage of vital minerals foreseen

Calcutta, Feb. 27 (Samachar): An Indian geologist has warned of Global critical shortages of vital mineral resources in the next few decades because of the population explosion and the rise in life expectancy.

V.K.S. Varadan, Director General of the Geological Survey of India (GSI) told the International geological Coorelation Programmes regional meeting for South and Central Asia that the population explosion had resulted in a rising demand for consumer demands. This was reflected in an increased demand for minerals. It also implied a rising demand for energy, which involved fossil fuels, minerals for nuclear power and geothermal power sources.

Governor resigns to contest poll

New Delhi, Feb. 27 (Samachar): R.D. Bhandare has resigned as Governor of Andhra Pradesh to contest the upcoming Lok Sabha elections on the Congress ticket.

Mr. Bhandare is the second governor to quit this week. Joginder Singh quit as Governor of Rajasthan also to contest as a Congress candidate.

Borlaug award for Indian

New Delhi, Feb. 25 (Samachar): Dr. Chivukula Krishnamoorthy, Director of All India Coordinated Research Project for dryland agriculture, has won the Borlaug Award for 1976 for his services to agriculture.

Dr. Krishnamoorthy, an eminent soil scientist, has been chosen specially for his significant contributions in identifying nutritional deficiences in the problem of soils and crop nutritional research.

Congress pledges to preserve democracy

New Delhi, Feb. 25 (Samachar): The Ruling Congress party assured the nation that it will preserve and consolidate democracy and put an end to all forms of violence and disorder so that the people can live in peace and harmony.

The assurance was one of the 12 main poll promises listed in the party's election manifesto released by Prime Minister Indira Gandhi.

The manifesto declared that the Congress was committed to the purpose of consolidating the country's unity, modernising the society without loss of Indian personality, integrating industry and agriculture with modern science and technology, uplifting masses and ending archaic, herarchical systems in which discrimination and exploitation have become entrenched.

It defended emergency as a timely measure that saved the Republic from catastrophe and restored political stability. Mrs. Gandhi explained that by stability she meant that the ship of state should be on even keel and charter a course which is known and recognised not only in the country but by other countries as well.

India in IMF loan list

New Delhi, Feb. 28 (Samachar) The International Monetary Fund is making the first interim loan disbursements, totalling 31.59 million SDRs (approximately Rs. 31 crore), to 12 low-income countries from the special Trust Fund, created out of profits from the sale of gold by IMF through auctions.

Sixty-one member countries, including India, have been listed as countries eligible for trust Fund assistance. But before approving assistance, the Fund has to satisfy itself that the country concerned has a need for balance of payments assistance based on its reserve position, and that it is making a reasonable effor to strengthen its payments position.

The loans carry an interest of one-half per cent and are repayable in ten equal semi-annual instalments beginning five and a half years from the date of each disbursement.

India has suggested that the criteria for eligibility should take into account the developmental needs of low-income countries.

The 12 countries which have been given the first loans include Philippines ($8.215 million SDRs), Zaire (5.989 million SDRs), Kenya (2.544 million SDRs), Tanzania (2.544 million SDRs,) and Nepal (742,000 SDRs. Further loan disbursements are planned at six-monthly intervals.

Steel know-how for export

New Delhi, Feb. 26 (Samachar): The Indian steel industry is making a determined bid to sell its consultancy in the Gulf countries for setting up of steel plants and allied projects.

A delegation led by B.P. Billimoria, Chairman of Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) will be visiting Saudi Arabia and Kuwait this weekend for discussion with top Government officials and representatives of industry.

Indian steel industry which has developed over the last two decades in collaboration with the Soviet Union, the Federal Republic of Germany, Britain, Japan and Canada has been able to assimilate the steel technology which is relevant to developing countries.

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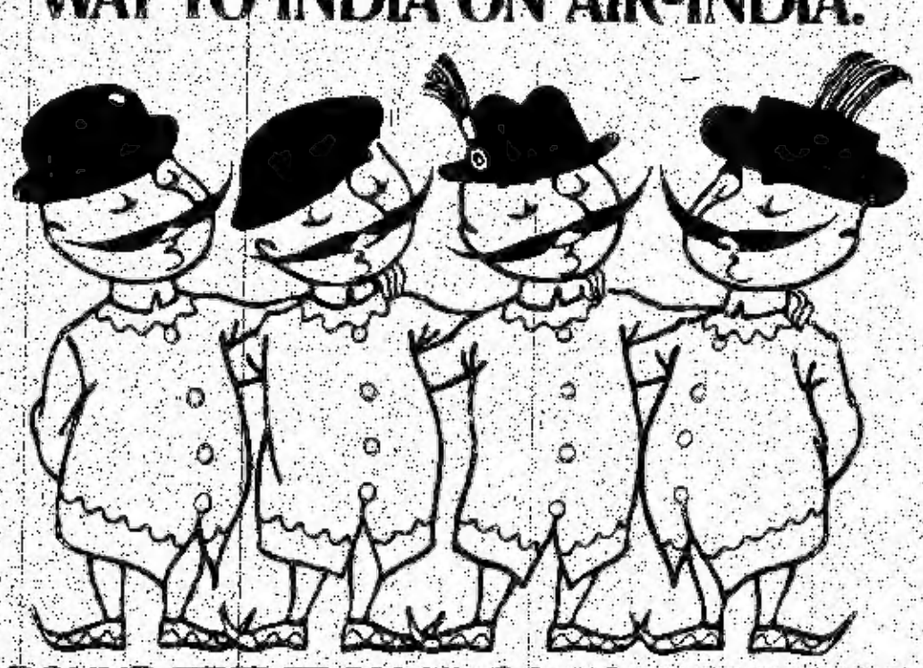

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A TIME FOR ACTION ——2

The editorial in the last issue centred on governmental (political) areas relating to racism. In this issue we will discuss another important area - the media.

The media always play a most crucial role in forming opinions, spreading attitudes and promoting understanding or misunderstanding. Unfortunately the Canadian news media have so far, by and large, helped to promote misunderstanding of East Indians. Most of them do not do it with that intention (though some of them have precisely that as their goal.

There are a few things one can and should do about it. In the electronic media, program managers of TV networks and radio stations should be approached for programs that familiarise the viewers listeners with the cultural background of, and contributions being made by, members of our community. One should attempt to participate in some of the programs. We can participate in local radio programs by giving talks on various areas where you have an expertise, being guest of talk shows, phoning in to present one's point of view when such programs are held and encouraging them to play music identifiable with East Indian culture. A community could arrange with radio stations for free (or if necessary paid) spots for commercials deprecating racism.

The media should be urged to hire people belonging to visible minority groups such as ours. Well known Canadian writers who have a positive and optimistic view of society should be encouraged to publish articles on East Indians in publications of local or national circulation. Any research assistance necessary for such articles should be gladly provided. Through letters to the editor and with the help of contacts with the news editors of newspapers, the papers should be encouraged to report less sensationally and more objectively on matters relating to race.

Some of these approaches will be more successful if we take the attitude that we are more concerned with our future here as Canadians and not as Indians who are eager to defend India and her government, though the latter is no crime if you so choose.

Last, but by no means least, do invest in media stocks if possible on an organized basis and try to have some influence on what is being discussed in their board rooms.

Greater ballot secrecy

New Delhi, Feb. 25 (Samachar): A new balloting process to make the secrecy of voting more foolproof has b een evolved by the Election Commission for the coming general election.

Under this system, the serial number of the ballot paper issued to a voter will not be noted against his name in the marked copy of the electoral roll as was done in the 1971 election.

Instead, the electoral number of the voter in the electoral roll will be entered in the counterfoil of the ballot paper.

Thus, the counterfoil of a ballot paper issued to a voter will contain the part number of the electoral roll, the serial number of the voter in that part of the electoral roll and the serial number of the ballot paper.

The system of obtaining the signature or thumb impression of the elector in the counterfoil of the ballot paper had already been dispensed with.

After the polling, the presiding officers of polling stations will keep, "inter alia" the marked copy of the electoral roll in a separate packet and the counterfoils of the used ballot papers in another packet. Each such packet will be sealed with the seals of the presiding officers and with seals either of the candidates or of their election agents who might be present at the polling station and might desire to affix their seals thereon.

These two sealed packets will not be opened at the time of counting since these packets have nothing to do with the counting of votes.

After the counting of votes is over and the results announced, these two packets, along with the packets containing other election papers, will be kept in the safe custody of the district election officer and could be opened only under the order of a competent court.

Letters

Racism: Who's problem?

Unfortunately racism has now appeared nude in Canada especially in the greater metropolises like Toronto and Vancouver. A subtle undercurrent of racial prejudice had always existed like in most other countries including our mother countries, yet its recent bubbling and bursting has shattered many and has left stains on everybody's mind.

Prejudice is an attitude universally employed by individuals and societies alike due to paranoid obsession of the self survival instinct. As long as X, say, considers its ways superior to Y's, it will either ridicule or suppress Y. In order to ensure it's supremacy X may go to the extreme of even trampling on Y. This is the principle of racial prejudice and racism.

Diversity is the law of life, although unity lies underneath. This has to be understood. Although I am changing every moment there is something of me that remains unchanged. No longer my body functions as efficiently as when I was in my youth. However, I have now acquired more knowledge and experience of life. Nature has it that one thing has to be given up to gain some other thing. It is not only true for an individual self but also for interpersonal relationship. Coming back to our earlier example X has to realize that it is not so important that Y speaks with an accent, dresses differently or eats exotic foods. The thing of paramount importance is that Y loves to do these things and should remain free to do so just as X is free to live his life. X and Y have to develop a spirit of understanding and accommodation.

In social terms a majority has the right and duty to conduct the affairs of the society only in a manner that it does not interfere with the wellbeing of the minority. Both majority and minority communities should have the right to live in dignity and must have equal opportunity for advancement. This is the basis of democracy. As a matter of fact this is the basis of any civilized society that is worth living in. In the words of India's famous philospher statesman, late President Radhakrishnan, the worth of a society will be judged in the manner it treats its minorities.

Prejudice has to be attacked on a long term basis with proper education. Violent racial attacks, on the other hand, must be immediately checked by existing law and police force. No hesitation should be shown in modifying our existing machinery if it proves ineffective. After all survival of Canada as we know it, depends on it.

The last point I would like to make is that although East Indian community should develop more sensitivity towards this country and its ways, it is ridiculous to blame ourselves for being in the present situation. It is not a sin to eat curry, wear sari or turban, worship in temples, gurdweras or mosques, love melody instead of harmony in the music, bathe more frequently instead of extravagently supporting perfume industry, and above all to have been born outside this country and have brown skin. If my 'Cafe au lait' colour does not suit somebody, it is his problem, not mine. Usually, it is claimed that East Indians (I have heard this about Chinese too) do not integrate into Canadian society and hence the implication that, therefore, there is racism. If this were true, then all the victims of the recent subway racial attacks in Toronto must have been unintegrated. Otherwise it is impossible for me to understand how the attackers knew that the victims were not integrated. One person alone can't even talk much to himself so that charges of talking loudly with an accent would also be invalid. The well-publicised cases in Toronto have involved now Sikh male victims and hence they could not be accused of even wearing turban. Police have not yet developed any odor-analyser test and no witnesses have testified that these people radiated pungent smell. The only disturbing feature of these unfortunate victims was that they had brown skins. All this points out is that racism is a product of sick mind, no matter how many healthy arguements may be provided to counter it. A disease requires treatment not an arguement.

Dr. Bhartendu
Toronto

Christians in Independence struggle

Even without the Editor's note suggesting that someone respond to N C Chatterji's letter "Defending Sanjay" published in the recent Canadian India Times, any sensible person of East Indian origin, I presume, would be more than willing to reply to the ludicrous accusations contained in the letter. Though the letter is a sad example of blanket statements devoid of any logical consistency, the aspect that disturbs and worries me most is the disgusting remarks about south Indians and particularly the Christians of Kerala. On the pretext of defending Sanjay Gandhi and the Congress party, what Chatterji has done is to vilify the entire Christian population of India by indulging in baseless allegations. Did he pen this letter out of a colossal ignorance of Indian history or out of deep seated hatred for the Christians. Why all this tirade? Is it because some Christians criticised Sanjay? What about criticism stemming from others? I am sure Chatterji will not consider Jayaprakash Narayan and Morarji Desai as Christians.

It is a pity that Chatterji has not cared to examine or he may not want to as is true of all racists - the part played by the Christian population of the former native states of Travancore and Cochin in the country's independence movement. I am a Christian, and proud to be one, from the erstwhile state of Travancore and may I inform Chatterji that I have no reasons to hide my face in shame and disgust when the issue of Indian independence is discussed. I still proudly cherish vivid memories of shouting "Britain Quit India" and marching in procession with a Congress flag in hand.

When will Chatterji realise that the people of most of the native states were involved in a dual battle during the colonial era, one against the despotic kings and the other against imperialism. In Travancore and Cochin we fought against autocracy of the worst kind for nearly two decades and the Christian population fought side by side with others. If Chatterji needs I can give the names of a number of Christian leaders who spent a considerable part of their lives behind prison bars. Their sacrifices may not be remembered as those of the national leaders, but to ignore these unselfish patriots will be tantamount to twisting the history of India. Chatterji has to realise that the struggle in the native states against local despots was deeply intertwined with the larger struggle to win independence from the British. I hope Chatterji realises that the freedom movement in the native states especially South India played a significant part in the hundreds of native states acceding to the Union rather than electing to stay as independent states. Has he heard about the plans of certain states to remain out of the Union and how these efforts failed miserably due to popular discontent. If he wants to read more about these essential aspects of the independence movement, I recommend that he read the two books by V.P. Menon.

It is a pity that we have individuals like Chatterji in this country who are so bigoted that they do not waste one moment to practise their trade-sowing seeds of division-at a time when what we need most is unity. Mr. Chatterji, don't you think we have enough of division in India, and why we have to wallow in this dirt in this country where after all we all are aliens?

One could find solace and comfort in the fact that any type of prejudice whether based on colour, creed, religion or anything else reflects imbecile thinking which some would argue should be ignored. Though the suggestion has some merit under certain conditions it is not valid in Chatterji's case, he should have known better before blurting out this kind of unmitigated nonsense.

Well Chatterji, leave your telephone number with the India Times, I would like to look you up next time I come to Regina. After all we both live in the same province, and I will be delighted to clarify a few things about which you seem to be totally ignorant.

J. Jeerakathil
LaRonge, Sask.

Scholarship in Carson's name

I am in strong agreement with the suggestion that a scholarship fund named after Mr. Carson be raised and I would be happy to contribute towards it.

I would like to suggest that the Indian community should set aside funds to make public awards to people like Mr. Carson who have made notable contributions to our community. I further suggest funds to be set up to fight discrimination cases in courts.

Ramesh Bijoor
Ottawa

Nominate Carson for good citizenship

I see from the advt. in your paper that Ontario Govt. is inviting nominations for awarding Ontario medal for good citizenship. I am sponsoring Mr. Carson's name for this medal and I hope all your readers especially Ontario residents do the same too.

I think Mr. Carson deserves this medal for his selfless, humane, kind and brave act in defending, two helpless youths, when the silent majority turned ostritches.

C. Thomas
Calgary, Alta.

Opposition not strong

By P.K. Kuruvilla

Dr. Kuruvilla is Associate Professor of Political Science at Wilfrid Laurier University.

Judging from Western newspaper and television reports about the current election campaign in India, it appears that many foreign observers are anticipating the fall of Mrs. Indira Gandhi from power, provided the elections are going to be free and fair.

According to my observations after spending nearly three months in India recently, these observers are perhaps attaching far too much significance to a few instances such as the "massive" display of anti-government sentiments in some of the largest cities in India, the defection from the ruling Congress Party of Jagjivan Ram, and Mrs. Vijya Lakshmi Pandit, joining the campaign against the government.

The general feeling among knowledgeable political observers in India at present seems to be that the election will be an honestly contested one and the Congress Party of Mrs. Gandhi will win again rather handsomely as it has done in every election since India became independent in 1947.

320 MILLION VOTERS

To predict the outcome of an openly contested election, especially in a country where there are 320 million eligible voters and where there have been no comprehensive studies concerning their voting behaviour, is an extremely hazardous undertaking for any observer. Nevertheless, what emboldens those who predict another Congress Party victory at the polls is their belief that most of the major factors which enabled it to win all previous electoral victories still remain sufficiently strong to yield big dividends again. In their estimation, thanks to the emergency declared by Mrs. Gandhi in July 1975, there are a few additional factors favouring the Congress Party this time. The purpose of this article is briefly to review four of these major factors.

One major factor explaining the lop-sided and already long-lasting dominance of the Congress relates to its historical origin and the extent to which the traditional masses became loyal to it. In contrast to many of the third world nationalist parties which came into being only a few years before their national independence, the Congress came into being in 1885 and as a national movement is probably the oldest political party in Asia.

When India became independent in 1947, the Congress, as the sole party that spearheaded the freedom crusade against the British, had a decisive advantage over its competitors in that it had already become very dear to the hearts of the masses. Many Congress supporters do not consider their party merely as a political party in the usual sense.

A MYSTIQUE

As Krishna Menon put it: "The great strength of the Congress Party is that it has a place in the hearts of the people. There is nothing to take its place ... You cannot compare it to a Western political party; it is not strictly a party, it's got a mystique; it's a movement still."

Given the traditional and highly personal and charismatic milieu within which the political process takes place in India, it has been relatively easy for the leaders of the Congress to capitalise on their personal charisma and the mystique of their party and to monopolise the mantle of authority for themselves. On the other hand, none of the leaders of the opposition parties, including even some of those who were members of the Congress before independence, have managed to create this mystique or gain access to the governmental domain.

A second crucial factor explaining the electoral successes of the Congress is that it is the only political party in India which has built itself into a genuinely national party with unrivalled grassroots and a mass base in the rural areas. This is immensely important because a vast majority of Indians live in the rural areas. When we read about mass opposition rallies in the cities, we should remember that it is the rural areas where most Indians live, that have always constituted the bastion of Congress support.

Like the major opposition parties, the Congress party also have generally drawn its leaders from the educated intelligentia with upper and middle class backgrounds and recruited its workers largely in the cities. However, there has been a basic difference in the way in which the votes are usually split between the Congress and its opponents: the principal sources of votes for the Congress have been the rural areas whereas the votes for the opposition have been largely from the cities.

This is partly due to the greater degree of political determination to redress grievances which is generaly discernible among the city-dwellers in contrast to the generally fatalistic, conservative and conformist attitudes of the more traditional rural population. Although this difference between the electoral behaviour of the city voters and those of the countryside has given rise to many complex problems in India, it has enabled the Congress to preserve its traditional power base unimpaired through election after election.

UMBRELLA PARTY

A third important explanation for Congress strength is that, almost from its inception, it has been an adaptable and broad "umbrella" Party at the center of the political spectrum with a capacity to appeal to virtually all shades and sections of society. Dr. B.R. Ambedkar once described the Congress as: "open to all fools and knaves, friends and foes, communalists and secularists, reformers and orthodoxists, capitalists and anti-capitalists."

The Congress has constantly attempted to make itself representative and reflective of the social and ideological diversity within India through a relentless policy of accommodation and absorption. By building up a variety of extensive networks based on caste, kinship, economic interests and common party membership, it has also attempted to adapt itself to virtually all levels of Indian Society and establish effective links with the masses. Furthermore, in its bid to maintain its dominance it has also not hesitated to borrow and "steal" profusely from the platforms of its opponents or to make opportunistic deals with them.

This policy of opportunistic coalition-building and indiscriminate accommodation and absorption of diverse elements in society has made it necessary for the Congress Party to tolerate a great deal of factional competition and dilution of ideology within it. But it has enabled it to retain its national character and prevent the opposition parties from becoming mass-based.

The fourth and perhaps the most important explanation for successive electoral victories of the Congress is the multiplicity and fragmentation of the opposition parties. A list of all the opposition parties that have contested the election since independence would be a long one indeed. Many of them have been strictly local parties with virtually no prospect of winning more than one or two parliamentary seats. In fact, even the so-called "national" opposition parties such as the Communists, the Praja Socialists, the Samyukta Socialists, the Swatantra and the Jana Sangh also enjoy significant support only in one or few of the 22 states.

In addition to the candidates put up by accredited political parties, frequently there have also been numerous independent candidates scrambling for electoral support. In the last general election, an average of five political parties competed for each parliamentary seat and there were many constituencies in which the voters had to make their choice from among no fewer than ten candidates.

Besides the multiplicity and fragmentation of the opposition parties, the "multiplier" effect of the electoral system which is based on single member constituencies similar to Canada's has also generally worked to the advantage of the Congress. In the 1967 elections, for example, the Congress received 40.7 per cent of popular votes but 54.4 per cent of parliamentary seats. In 1971, while its share of the popular vote increased by less than 3 per cent, its share of seats rose to 67.5 per cent. In 90 of the 352 constituencies which it won (out of a total of 522), it received less than half the votes cast.

OLD CONGRESS

In none of the five general elections that India has had so far, has the Congress Party's share of the popular vote been more than 48 per cent. However, the "multiplier" effect of the electoral system has enabled it consistently to win a majority of seats in parliament. More than anything else, it is an appreciation of this aspect of Congress victories that now has prompted the leaders of four of the opposition parties - the Old Congress which split with the ruling Congress in 1969, the Jan Sangh, the Socialists and the Indian Peoples Party - to forge links and merge their parties into a single united opposition party called the Janata (peoples) Party.

In announcing the formation of this new coalition, Mr. Morarji Desai, its leader said "We hope to win a thumping majority, not just a small majority." On the surface, it may appear that he has a good chance to achieve this. But on closer scrutiny, it seems very doubtful for the following reasons.

First of all, it goes without saying that to stop fragmentation of the anti-Congress vote fully and most effectively, all the opposition parties and even the "independents" have to come together and present a single slate of candidates to oppose the Congress candidates. But so far, many of the opposition parties have refused to do so.

The most conspicuous among those parties that have declined to join the coalition or work out

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Book review
My years in Indian prison

Mervyn Jones

My Years in an Indian Prison by Mary Tyler Gollancz 5.20 pounds.

Prison books, far more than the records of a journey or even living in a foreign country, come out of a nakedly real and transforming experience. They have a natural dramatic structure made by the spaces of endurance between the sudden moments of incarceration and release.

You'll recognise Mary Tyler well enough as a radical girl of the Sixties, intelligent, ardent, and ready to burn her boats. She met Amalendu Sen in a train in Germany. He belonged to the most ultra-left of India's three communist parties, the group commonly known as Naxalites and devoted to revolution by means of peasant uprisings. I think myself that their theories recklessly ignored the many differences between China in 1927 and India in 1967, but what they attempted in certain Bengali villages gave a spurt of hope to people brutally oppressed. Mary Tyler went to India and was so affected by what she saw that she decided to stay and married Sen. They then went to a village, presumably a village where Sen and his comrades had some support; but if he had any intentions on this trip beyond that of completing his bride's political education, it hasn't been proved. They were arrested; she was taken to a prison in Bihar and he to the main prison in Calcutta. That was in May 1970. In June 1975, after repeated postponements, she was brought to trial on charges of sedition, but no evidence had been produced before she was suddenly told that all charges were dropped and was given a one-way ticket to London. Sen has not yet been tried, and scores of the Naxalites are in the same situation.

Mary Tyler's fellow-prisoners included many political dissidents, strikers and student demonstrators. From her worm's eye view she confirms the point made analytically by Dilip Hiro in his Inside India Today which I reviewed here (NS, 8 October 1976): that in terms of human rights the difference between India as an official democracy and India under Mrs. Gandhi's 'emergency' regime is one of degree. At any period, trial delays are indefinite and releases - when not secured by bribery or influence - are a matter of policy; the view held by the authorities is clearly that people holding certain opinions should be behind bars for certain periods of time, and that's that.

The fact that political prisoners are treated in this way is bad enough, but only someone who has been in jail would be able to show that the same goes for ordinary people who fall foul of law and can't afford a good lawyer. Women often have to bring their children into prison (you can forget about the myth of protective extended family) and one character in the Hazaribagh story in Prokash, who arrived there two days old and had yet to see the outside world when Ms. Tyler said godbye to him five years later; the mother hadn't even been presented with a charge-sheet. Again, we meet a husband and wife accused of harvesting rice on land which they claimed to be theirs, but which was also claimed by a rich peasant. The husband died after four years without trail, the wife is still waiting.

Such people have no friends. Ms. Tyler had some, notably Walter Schwarz of the Guardian, who wrote effectively about her case; but her friends didn't include the staff of the British High Commission. One of these gentlemen, in a letter to her parents, described her as 'set in her views and unrepentant.' Maybe it's naive to say that her views had nothing to do with her right to justice, or that proof of guilt should come before repentance, but I still find the letter nauseating, the more so if its purpose was to deter the Tylers from making a fuss. Late in the day though it is, one would like to see Mr. Crosland reminding this official of his duties.

Conditions in the prison were appalling. The food was not only inadequate but often stale and rotten, so that most of the prisoners were chronically ill. The poorly-paid warders supplemented their salaries by corruption, known by the English word 'income'. Bribes were needed to get medical treatment, to be allowed visits, to send or receive letters. To be able to bribe, the prisoners could only sell their miserable rations and reduce themselves to near-starvation. Things were even worse at Jamshedpur, a place with a torrid climate to which Ms. Tyler was taken several times as her trial was to be held there. She records:

There were 44 women and 12 children sharing the 15-foot-square cage. At night they were packed in rows, unable to turn one way or the other without great difficulty, young and old, sick and healthy, mad and sane, all crammed in together.

But the horrors are in no way overstressed, and the value of this book derives mainly from what Ms. Tyler learned, by listening to prisoners, about the life of India: the continuing obsession with caste, the contempt for untouchables and tribespeople, the power exerted by money and 'good connections' even at the pettiest level, the pervasive social injustice. The crimes of the prisoners, even when legally proven or frankly admitted, could in almost every case be directly related to their poverty and to the social structure. Most of these crimes were either thefts whose motive was survival, or the use of land without legal title; and what is one to say of the man who killed a money-lender who was pestering his wife to repay the impossible debt by the use of her body? The rate of interest (12 per cent per month is common in the Indian countryside) is an illegality, for on paper such usury has been abolished, like forced labour and untouchability; but it isn't the money-lender who goes to jail. Here indeed are les forcats de la faim, les damnes de la terre. All is set down with a warm compassion, a totally persuasive veracity, and yet a wonderful restraint and calmness. By writing only about an Indian prison, Mary Tyler has written one of the very best books about India.

[New Statesman]

Nuclear technique for agriculture

New Delhi, Feb. 27 (Samachar): An International symposium of agricultural scientists has recommended increasing use of nuclear techniques to tackle problems of dryland agriculture, the symposium, which concluded here recently, also recommended extension of the use of nuclear technology in agricultural universities.

Nearly 200 papers were presented at the symposium, which discussed improving crop and animal productivity by using nuclear and allied techniques.

Opposition not strong

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any poll adjustment with it include the pro-Moscow Communists who in 1971 won 23 seats; the Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam which got 23 seats; and the Swatantra which won 8 seats. The four opposition groups that have now merged together to form the Janata Party received only about 25 per cent of the popular vote in 1971 and only 50 seats.

Jan sangh

Secondly, this hurriedly-formed opportunistic coalition whose members range from the leftist socialists to the rightist Hindu nationalist Jan Sangh has not yet managed to produce any strong political platform let alone one that will have an electrifying effect on the electorate. Its only major area of agreement is opposition to Mrs. Gandhi. Its failure to produce a more positive platform naturally makes many people suspicious of the sincerity and motives of its stalwarts who were snarling at each other until recently. This, coupled with the fact that many of the drastic socio-economic programs implemented by Mrs. Gandhi since the declaration of the emergency have shown tangible results is likely to make it extremely difficult for the coalition to muster sufficient votes to topple the Congress.

Thirdly, the coalition leaders, many of whom were political prisoners until the recent abrupt announcement of the election, have to work on the election almost from scratch. Mr. Jayaprakash Narayan has repeatedly complained, they are left with only very little time. They had only a few weeks to reorganise their shattered party cadre, raise funds, recruit workers, work out merger details, select candidates and make a host of other arrangements required to contest elections in a country of continental size and with one of the largest electorates in the world.

Raising sufficient campaign funds may prove to be the most difficult task of the opposition. In the light of an unbroken legacy of government control and an impressive array of sweeping emergency powers still enjoyed by the Congress Party it is not difficult to understand why there is a widespread unwillingness on the part of the business community, the professional groups or the peasantry to make campaign contributions to the opposition. The Congress Party, on the contrary, with its many years of monopoly of governmental power and patronage, seems to have no difficulty in raising campaign funds.

SAFE BET

The dice seems to be loaded against the opposition in so many other less apparent ways as well. For example, although censorship of the press has been officially lifted, the government is still left with enormous powers given to it by the recent constitutional amendments and censorship legislation. Similarly, the opposition has been complaining that they are not receiving adequate time and appropriate coverage on the state-controlled radio and T.V. network, the only one in the country. In every way, it is an uphill task for them at present.

New developments may change the situation but unless that happens, it seems a safe bet that the Congress will be swept back to power once again.

Racism: You can't argue with the facts

Continued from issue of Feb. 17, 1977

Most other Canadian cities have so far escaped open violence, but East Indian leaders believe this is because their small communities do not yet attract attention. They worry about a future spill-over of racism as their numbers grow. In Montreal, East Indians are forming an association to protect themselves in the event that violence spreads ("United we can do something for ourselves," says community worker Gulnar Irani) and in Winnipeg a "defense" group has already been set up from among the 5,000-member East Indian community.

Although East Indians in Toronto say they have been victims of subtle racism since they began arriving in Canada, it wasn't until a year ago that white bigotry started erupting into brutal physical attacks. Shamshudin Kanji, a 49-year-old Tanzanian immigrant going home after a prayer meeting by subway, was pushed off the platform onto the tracks by two young men while a third shouted "Push the Paki." The terrified immigrant suffered fractured knees, spent four months in hospital and still walks with crutches. Since then the attacks, mostly by drunken youths, have continued at a rate of about one a week. East Indians are spat upon, jostled and kicked but most don't bother to report the incidents. Says Ranvir Sharda, editor of India Digest and a member of the Canadian Council For Racial Harmony, "Ninety percent of the people don't dare complain. They just turn away."

In inner-city Toronto schools, where fewer than half the students now list English as their mother tongue, ethnic diversity is deteriorating into division and conflict. After two stabbing incidents involving black and white students last summer, a study commissioned by the Toronto Board of Education criticized teachers in one ethnic area for ignoring racial slurs and not taking action when students showed up with knives and chains. The study was shelved as being "too shallow" in its analysis. But another report revealed that many teachers and principals were resisting multicultural programs such as Chinese, Italian and Greek classes designed to help immigrant children make the transition to life in Canada. One principal said: "Canada should come first and the other nationality second, otherwise, they shouldn't have come here."

A survey of 255 Ontario students, most between the ages of 12 and 15, showed that the majority held bigoted attitudes - especially against East Indians. Researchers said students talked of "Paki-busting" as a new pastime, and of "extermination." They concluded: "The situation of East Indians...not least the situation of young students, demands emergency action."

Despite the schoolyard harassment, the bitterest complaints among non-whites have been reserved for Toronto's police department. As long ago as September, 1975, the Canadian Civil Liberties Association warned of impending trouble when it collected five affidavits from non-whites accusing police of neglecting to protect them against racial attacks. Black Canadians continually complain of being stopped on the downtown Yonge Street strip and asked for passports as part of a police campaign to keep black pimps and prostitutes from United States border centres out of the city. Ontario human rights commissioner Dr. Bruce McLeod one night witnessed a white man beating a black man for no apparent reason. Although he reported the assailant's car license number to the police, no action was taken. After four months of delays and many telephone calls, the man was brought to trial but was given an absolute discharge. Says McLeod: "I'm sure that if I hadn't been a commissioner nothing would have been done." Adds Clayton Ruby, a noted civil rights lawyer: "There is a segment of the population that has begun to feel that violent racism is acceptable or that they can get away with it. The police are not providing adequate protection."

Lack of confidence in the police is leading many East Indians to talk of defending themselves. A militant East Indian Defense committee threatens to fight "sticks with sticks and arms with arms." Says Sharda: "East Indians religiously are taught to be very patient. But a patient man can be the worst of men if moved." Many families, like that of 36-year-old Toronto insurance agent, Lloyd Allahar, go out only in groups. His wife was continually harassed by a 12-year-old boy in their apartment building who taunted her with "I scalp Indians." Jagdish Bhaudaria, a 36-year-old law student who has been attacked several times and received threatening telephone calls, has bought "quite a few" high-powered, semi-automatic 303 rifles and has taught his wife how to use them. Talk of retaliation, however, is generally frowned on by the majority of East Indians.

Distressing as it is for Canada's most recent immigrants, the underlying bigotry in Canadian society comes as no surprise in the context of Canada's record in dealing with non-Christian, non-European settlers. In 1887, for example, a mob outside Vancouver drove Chinese coolies from a mining camp over a 25-foot cliff into the Pacific and then proceeded to clear out the city's Chinatown. In 1914 a boat-load of Sikhs who arrived in Vancouver planning to become settlers were prevented from landing by a series of regulations barring entry of Asians. Throughout the Depression years Ottawa was deluged with petitions asking that immigrants, particularly Jewish immigrants, be kept out. During the Second World War, about 20,000 Japanese Canadians were interned (Italians and Germans were left alone) and millions of dollars of property confiscated. Very little of it was ever returned.

"Things are not getting better," concludes Alan Borovoy, head of the Canadian Civil Liberties Association. "But we have to avoid the twin risks of exaggeration and minimization. It's not a situation that warrants hysteria or apathy. We have to act now to shore up institutions that deal with this problem." Fortunately, there are signs across the country that civic leaders, school officials and police heads are moving in that direction. Anti-racist hot lines are springing up to provide help for victims of racist attacks. The Alberta Human Rights Commission is planning a special grade 10 social studies unit on racism and immigration in 15 schools as well as an inter-agency committee to improve relations among the teachers, schools and immigrants. In Nova Scotia, home of half of Canada's blacks, the confrontations of eight years ago, which paralleled the American civil rights movement, were ended in part because of various programs to bring blacks and white together to talk.

In Toronto, civic institutions are beginning to show flexibility in their hiring practices. The transport commission allows Sikhs to wear turbans instead of regular hats and the fire department, which just a year ago had only two non-whites out of a staff of 1,200 mostly because of archaic hiring practices, now advertises in the non-white press. After the recent spate of subway attacks, police and school board heads met with East Indian leaders to listen to complaints. Ontario's human rights code will soon be overhauled to eliminate loopholes. So far though, despite repeated recommendations, there are no moves to set up an independent agency to review citizen's complaints against police. Police now review themselves.

The federal government is also moving to eliminate discrimination within its own ranks. After years of delay, a human rights bill is now before parliament that will set up a commission to act as watchdog over federal bodies, Crown corporations, agencies and companies that fall under its purview. (The provincial governments already have similar commissions.) But one clause that would make broadcast hate messages, even over the telephone, a criminal offense punishable by up to one year in jail and a $5,000 fine, may face opposition from civil libertarians who fear freedom of speech will suffer.* Says Borovoy: "By trying to get some people they run the risk with others as well. It's not a reasonable risk to run."

The reduction in the number of immigrants entering the country (down 23% last year) and the prospect of annual limits envisioned in the new immigration act will probably ease the pressure, but ultimately the present tensions will end only when Canadians begin to accept the ever-changing nature of their society. "There will always be a level of racism and that we have to live with," says Clayton Ruby. Sociologist Richmond is more hopeful. "People under 30 are much more accepting and tolerant today than those over 50 and as they get older they are not getting more bigoted." For Toronto's East Indians, however, the most hopeful gesture of support came from 62-year-old Jim Carson, an investigator with the provincial Ombudsman's office. Rushing home New Year's eve, he entered a subway car to find several youths harassing two brown-skinned men. When Carson tried to prevent the two passengers from being attacked the youths turned on him, kicked him, cut his leg, broke his nose and eventually threw him onto the platform. Said Carson, a short and compact war veteran, "I've never seen so much hatred in anyone's eyes. If I thought my beloved country was to be inherited by hooligans like this I'd be brokenhearted." Other passengers looked on while Carson was beaten, and the youths were never caught. The city's Shromani Sikh Society presented Carson with a gift sword, their highest honor.

ANGELA FERRANTE

* In Toronto, a "White Power" telephone number dispenses weekly taped messages such as: "God is a racist. The seventh commandment means no races mix. Had God wanted coffee-colored mongrels he would have made us that way."

MacLean's Magazine.

STRANGER IN A CHOSEN LAND

By Manjula Parakat

One day
In the dim past
A firm decision made
To relocate,
Emigrate,
Abandon one's land of birth

Dreading the arid future
I thirsted for greener pastures
And found them
Overseas.

The Pampas and Savannahs are not forever.
Grass fades, grows dry,
Is invaded upon
By shrubs, thorny bushes.
Finally
The earth cracks-dry
Opens jaws to devour.

Now I recollect
Where WAS I?
Where AM I?
Amidst my kin,
On that earth
Which gave me birth
That parched existence
My spirit could bear.

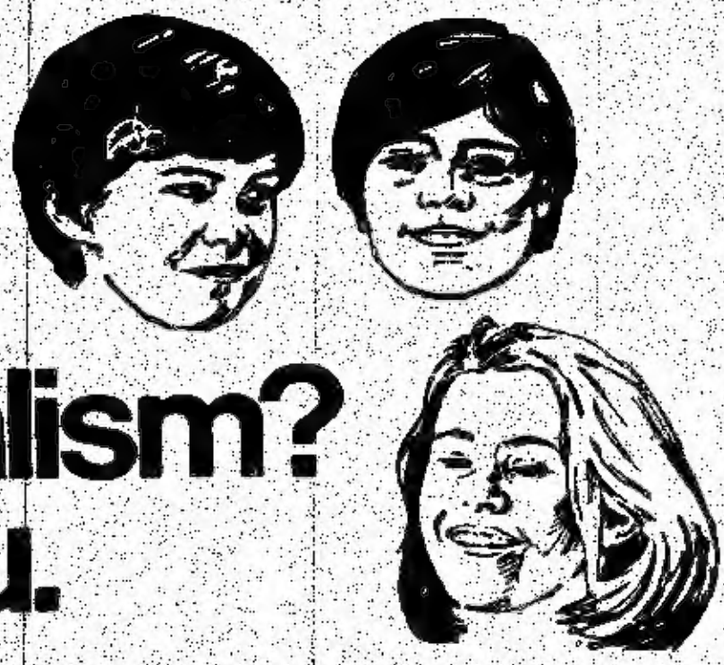
Now Here
Land of Mine Own Choice,
I am but
A Stranger in this Chosen Land.

PROF. DIRAC HONOURED

Calcutta, Feb. 28 (Samachar): British Nobel Laureate Paul Andre Mauric Dirac was awarded Rabindranath Tagore Sirth centenary plaque by the Asiatic Society here for his contribution to physical sciences with special reference to the development of "fermi-Dirac statistics and relativistic wave equation" popularly known as Dirac equation.

WONDER FERTILISER FROM WEED

Jhansi, Feb. 25 (Samachar): Scientists at the India Grassland and Fodder Research Institute (IGFRI) here claim to have succeeded in extracting chemical compounds from certain menacing weeds which can lead to a major breakthrough in agricultural production in the world.



Multiculturalism? It's up to you.

The whole idea behind Multiculturalism is helping Canadians get along together, to understand each other's backgrounds and differences.

While it is a permanent Government policy for all Canadians, Multiculturalism is voluntary. It really is up to us to make it work.

Our Federal Government provides the following programs and facilities to help us preserve our cultural backgrounds:

IN THE DEPARTMENT OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE
The Multiculturalism Program is designed to assist and promote cultural development of all Canadian groups wishing to preserve and contribute their heritage to Canada. Implementation of the following activities helps to achieve this goal:

Ethnic Groups Liaison
This program makes available its professional resources to assist groups at the national and local levels in organization and communication.

Canadian Identities Program
Strives to strengthen the cultural identity of minority groups and promote a greater understanding and awareness of Canada's cultural diversity through crafts, theater, folk art festivals, and literature.

Canadian Ethnic Studies
Guided by the Canadian Ethnic Studies Advisory Committee programs are developed for research on ethnic studies in Canada. The program of visiting professorships and lectureships at Canadian universities is also administered by the Advisory Committee.

Non-Official Languages Teaching-Aids
Makes funds available for the development and production of teaching materials for language classes.

Multiculturalism Centres Program
Assists voluntary groups to organize multicultural centres in local communities.

Immigrant Integration Program
Assists various groups in helping immigrants to participate more fully in Canadian society.

Projects Grants Program
Makes funds available to voluntary groups in support of a broad spectrum of multicultural activities.

IN THE NATIONAL FILM BOARD
As part of its contribution to the Multiculturalism Program the National Film Board has produced over 400 of its films in 19 different languages. These may be obtained free of charge from National Film Board offices in the following cities: Vancouver, Winnipeg, Toronto, Montreal, Ottawa and Halifax.

IN THE NATIONAL MUSEUM OF MAN
The National Museum of Man in Ottawa documents the history of all Canadian ethno-cultural traditions. The museum has accumulated a vast number of artifacts, tape recordings, video tapes and films. Special attention is being placed on such elements as folk architecture, home furnishings, pre-industrial techniques of food production and handicrafts, traditional story-telling, family and community life, feasts and rites. Cultural exhibits and travelling displays are also being prepared.

IN THE PUBLIC ARCHIVES
The National Ethnic Archives program is designed to find and protect ethno-cultural records from loss, damage or deterioration. A staff of area specialists has begun collating records of this rich and important aspect of our heritage through contacts with ethno-cultural organizations, associations, and individuals.

IN THE NATIONAL LIBRARY
The National Library has organized a Multilingual Biblio-service. Its aim is to acquire books in non-official languages spoken in Canada and make them available through public libraries, expanding the extant non-official language book collections in most libraries. The first shipment of books in ten languages left Ottawa in March 1975. It is planned to add five new languages annually to a total of 70 languages.

To present your views, or to receive further information, write to:

Multiculturalism, 16th Floor, 66 Slater Street, Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0M5

Hon. John Munro
Minister Responsible for Multiculturalism

L'hon. John Munro
Ministre chargé du multiculturalisme

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's Magazine.

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Feb. 25 (Samachar):
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FILMS

LAGAAM

Directed by Desh Gautam

Let us first get the hang of the rather convoluted theme of this film. There is the youngster all too prone to fly into a fit of anger at the slightest sight of anyone being wronged. If the victim happens to be a woman his indignation is sure to escalate into violence. His mother could foresee, more clearly than anyone else, the obvious troubles he is likely to invite himself into. And so she ties around his neck a pendant (**lagaam**), with the loving injunction that he should remain non-violent, whatever the provocation, at any rate until the string she has put around his neck is snapped. He gives his promise and so remains a mere witness to crime and cruelty, though he couldn't help asking others to revolt against the harshness to which they are subjected. But he would himself invariably choose to turn the other cheek. But there are limits to forbearance. Thus one day a villainous playboy's sadistic trait touches its depth when he disowns the child born to a girl he had raped. That is the signal for our reluctant pacifist to come back into his own, discard the cloak of non-violence and intervene on the side of the wronged. The **lagaam** gets broken.

Mohan Kaul's story is a mixture of the believable and the fantastic - the former has shades of foreign influence and the latter is a pure concession to boxoffice. Except for the leading male character - a violent man turned non-violent turning full circle - all the others in the cast conform to their well-known and well-hardened moulds. Thus Prem Chopra is the callous villain who likes his drinks neat; Bindhu is the sophisticated vamp; Farida Jalal the wronged woman; Dina Pathak the affectionate mother; Yogita Bali the dancing belle; Jankidas the lecherous money-sucker; Ram Mohan the villain's right hand; Satyendra Kapoo the timid villager.

The only novelty among these stereotypes is provided by Vinod Khanna - his non-violent role, to be specific. He has had the luck to play a variety of roles - villain, dacoit, teacher, soldier, romantic hero, rustic villager and so on. In **Lagaam** he is a simple village wood-hewer who refuses to use his extraordinary physical strength against his adversaries, in a show as it were of mental grit. Though this role, as it is constructed, is hardly convincing, Vinod Khanna saves it from looking ludicrous; such is his non-acting style.

A new role for Indian films

By Trevor Drieberg

The Sixth Indian International Film Festival is mercifully over. While it was on the cultural devecotes of Delhi were in turmoil. Film buffs, critics, pseudo-critics and just plain gossip writers have had the time of their lives rubbing shoulders with Akira Kurosawa, Michelangelo Antonioni and Elia Kazan, to name but a few of the visiting celebrities who thronged the capital in those hectic three or four weeks.

Basically, the festival catered to the appetite of the social elite of the capital for something new in the form of film fare. It gave them an opportunity of seeing films from abroad which would normally have not got past the eagle-eyed censors, or if they did only in a castrated form.

It does not need much knowledge of the esthetic sensibilities and psychology of our filmgoers to know which of these categories enjoyed popular favour, and for what reasons. The advanced countries easily came first, with the other two categories trailing far behind, but this was by no means due to the cinematic quality of the products on display.

By and large the large number of films from the developed countries found favour with audiences which had paid well above the usual rates to see them because their main ingredients were sex in different forms, physical violence and male chauvinism. These are three common characteristics of the general run of Indian films as well.

Sex is an important part of life, indeed one of the basic, inescapable aspects of living. But it is one thing to introduce sex into a film as an integral part of the plot and another to exploit it purely for commercial reasons.

Unfortunately, what our film audiences paid for exorbitantly was sex for its own sake. They were not at all choosy about the artistic quality of the films they were shown so long as they contained a satisfactory quota of sexual activity.

One of the purposes of organizing international film festivals is to give filmmakers in the country where a festival is held an opportunity to see the innovative work of their counterparts in other countries. If this was also one of the aims of the Delhi festival the bulk of the films screened must have convinced our filmmakers that they were on the right track in concentrating on sex, violence - and its concomitant disaster - and male domination over women.

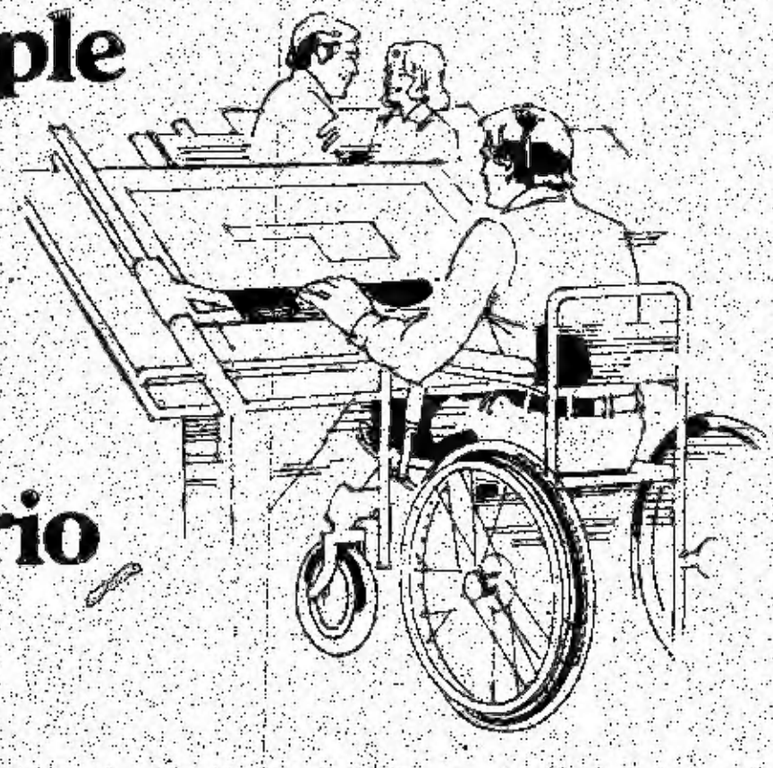
In justification of the popular types of Indian films a well-known actor-director told a popular magazine recently: "We give them (audiences) what they want. We sell them dreams, they buy them." And he added: "If we produce the worst (films), America produces the second worst."

Peddling dreams may be sound box-office practice. But we ought to ask ourselves whether the cinema, perhaps the most powerful means of mass communication and motivation we have in this country, can be left in the hands of people who are solely interested in making a profit out of it.

India belongs to the third world, although some of these mugals apparently believe it belongs to the first, to judge from the films they make and their lifestyle. Our country is in the process of sloughing off the past, economically, socially, culturally, politically, and striving to create a bright new future in which life has a meaning for those millions who are denied it today.

In the circumstances it is in the national interest to permit this very significant vehicle of mass communication, the cinema, to produce tawdry dreams which provide a fleeting escape from reality instead of guiding those who patronise it to see the reality, however ugly it is. For how can we change that ugliness unless we identify it? But this would in all probability go against the interests of the film barons.

Handicapped people can be productive and self-supporting.



This is what Ontario is doing to help.

Your Ontario Government operates a program called Vocational Rehabilitation Services, which is designed to assist physically, mentally and emotionally handicapped people to become employable and where possible self-supporting.

These services are available without charge.

They include:

- medical and vocational assessments
- vocational guidance and counselling
- work adjustment training
- job placement
- artificial limbs, wheelchairs and braces
- training in community colleges, universities,
- trade and business institutes, and industry

Last year, 11,800 handicapped persons received one or more of these services.

The program also helps employers, by pre-interviewing job applicants, providing information about their abilities, sharing wage payments during initial on-the-job training, and offering many other supportive services.

Through the Ontario Ministry of Community and Social Services, a staff of trained counsellors and supervisors helps the handicapped person develop his or her work potential.

For more information, write for your copy of the free booklet "Help for the Vocationally Handicapped", which describes the Vocational Rehabilitation Services program in detail. Contact your local Ministry of Community and Social Services office, or write to:

Rehabilitation Branch
Ministry of Community and Social Services
Hepburn Block, 4th Floor
Queen's Park, Toronto, Ontario M7A 1E9

Keith Norton, Minister of Community and Social Services

William Davis, Premier

Province of Ontario

Elections in India

By Mukhtyar S. Tomar

On January 18, 1977, Prime Minister Indira Gandhi pulled out another surprise from her political bag, when she announced general elections in India to be held in March, 1977. It was just last November she received her party's approval to postpone elections for another year. Now people wonder what forced her to change her mind, but for a student of political science it is no surprise.

A smart politician knows "to make hay while the sun shines". Mrs. Gandhi is a very shrewed politician.

It is not too long ago when Prime Minister Trudeau had shown the same political acumen when he, by putting the NDP in a difficult position on his proposed economic measures, had called a snap election in 1974, just two years after his near defeat in 1972, and came out victorious with a clear mandate. During his minority-party government he played along well with the NDP, and gained his lost popularity, and finally cornered the NDP leader, David Lewis in a position where not only his party suffered a great loss, but it cost him his own seat as well, and consequently caused his political death. No ordinary politician could have gained such success. Trudeau gave Lewis a rope long enough to hang himself up, and that is what he did.

Through her twenty-point programme, and inflation rate at zero, availability of daily needs in the market, with some discipline in administration, surplus in grain stocks and trade surplus with overflowing foreign currency reserves, Mrs. Gandhi is practically at the height of her accomplishments. She has brought long-sought relief to the common man, who is normally not very much concerned with who runs the government but wants to live in peace. From all available information, it is not difficult to understand that this common man is very happy under the Emergency. These economic gains and political popularity are the reasons behind Indira Gandhi's decision to call elections at this time.

POLITICAL GAME

She always knew these rules of political game, but to make the maximum out of such advantageous position a politician has to be shrewed enough not to give more time to Opposition than the minimum required by the Constitution or the laws governing parliamentary elections. Prime Minister Trudeau had done the same for his snap election in 1974. He always had this in his mind while walking hand in hand with David Lewis, but he never let anybody know in advance his election timing. Mrs. Gandhi did the same by getting approval for postponement of elections in November, 1976, because she wanted everybody to believe that she didn't want elections for another year, while she knew that she was going to have them just five months after that approval. Great Britain which is considered the mother of modern parliamentary democracy has witnessed this sort of short-notice elections many times. Hence, making best use of the political situation is an accepted rule of the political game. Mrs. Gandhi's call is not an exception.

After this call, our eyes must be focussed on the game itself: how it is played by Mrs. Gandhi's party and her opposition. When writing a letter to Asoka Mehta, a prominent figure in oposition, that the opposition parties must not resort to violence or not to play on communal feelings of the people, but they must demonstrate "a genuine acceptance of the changes that have taken place", and "a constructive approach to social change", Mrs. Gandhi meant to play a fair game. This undertaking must be accepted as a genuine offer by her, and the opposition should treat it as such. And in case the opposition feels that they couldn't trust her, then it becomes all the more important that they should not trust her, then it becomes all the more important that they shouldn't give any reason to the government to take undue advantage of the Emergency. Let us hope both sides practice restraint and play the game with the spirit of sportsmanship.

London Economist claims that through her letter to Asoka Mehta, Mrs. Gandhi had laid down her conditions for reviving political activity by the opposition. In my opinion, it is not only conveyance of her government's "conditions for reviving political activity", but it is an astute move by Mrs. Gandhi to stir struggle for leadership among the opposition, by sending this letter only to Asoka Mehta, recognizing him as their leader, and thus adding a considerably younger blood to the long list of self-recognized leaders of the opposition; notable of them are: 80-year old former Deputy Prime Minister and leader of the Organization Congress, Morarji Desai who has always dreamt of becoming the Prime Minister of India; 68-year old former Agriculture Minister Jagjivan Ram who resigned just oneweek after the announcement regarding the elections, and now is the self-styled chief of his new party, "Congress for Democracy" and thinks that it is his turn to govern the country; 74-year old veteran Sarvodaya leader Jaiprakash Narain who sacrificed his saintly image to be the chief spokesman of the world's largest democracy; and just behind them watching closely are the younger leaders like Charan Singh, former Chief Minister of U.P., and L.K. Advani, leader of the Hindu nationalist Jan Sangh Party.

ASOKA MEHTA

By throwing this recognition to Asoka Mehta, Mrs. Gandhi has blocked the way for the stalwarts. If Asoka Mehta decides to be the leader of the opposition, and which most probably, he is going to do, the three elder leaders must either go their way or forget about being the next Prime Minister of India. Only other option would be to accept the Presidency of the country, which also has fallen vacant because of the sudden death of President Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed on Friday, Feb. 11, 1977. The most likely choice for that position could be Jaiprakash Narain. It leaves Morarji Desai and Jagjivan Ram who should either say goodby to active politics or accept positions under Asoka Mehta. And if Mehta becomes Prime Minister, he should be smart enough not to include these two old-timers in his cabinet; they will not be assets but would always remain a liability. Hence, looking at the situation from all angles, Jai Prakash Narain seems to be in a comparatively comfortable situation provided he agrees to be a candidate for the Presidentship, and Asoka Mehta exerts himself for leadership, and the old-timers, Morarji Desai and Jagjivan Ram take respectable "SANYAS", (retirement), from politics. Open struggle for leadership within the ranks of opposition would certainly be a welcome development for Mrs. Gandhi's party.

It is in the best interest of the country that the opposition gets united and provide the public with two-party system which has been very long overdue. Two-party, (at the most three-party), system is the best political arrangement for any kind of democracy in the world. This system is in practice in most of the democractic countries of today. Even if the opposition doesn't win election this time, but it can play a vital role by providing a sound and responsible opposition forcing the governing party to listen to its advice. If the party in power fails to provide a good government, the public will have an alternative to look for. By forcing the opposition parties to form a single party in opposition would certainly be the greatest achievement on the part of Mrs. Gandhi and the country must feel grateful to her for this great service to the nation.

SANJAY

Before concluding, I would like to throw some light and express my opinion on two very important questions. One, will the sudden death of President Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed force Mrs. Gandhi to change her mind about the elections? Will she go through or postpone the elections and run the government under the Emergency? I don't think she would follow that course of action. She had advised the late President to cut short his foreign state visit and return home to lift the Emergency so that the regular political activities could be started and elections be held under normal conditions. Since the Parliament had already been dissolved she no more enjoyed the public mandate to govern the country other than in the form of a caretaker till the new Parliament is elected. By the word 'Parliament' here I mean the Lok Sabha only. Secondly, under the provisions of the Indian Constitution, upon the death of the President, the Vice-President officiates until another President is elected, and this should be done within six months after the death of the President. And to elect a President there has to be an elected Parliament, because he is indirectly elected by the elected members of both Houses of Parliament and State Legislative Assemblies.

Second question is about her son Sanjay Gandhi. Is Sanjay Gandhi going to be in her Cabinet or in some other form of governing power? My answer is a 'NO'. Mrs. Gandhi is a shrewed politician, and she is going to act like that. I don't think it appropriate here to mention the possible reasons behind it. I would like to leave it for the students of political science as a food for thought and to draw their own conclusions.

Coast guard action against tresspassers

Calcutta, Feb. 25 (Samachar) Despite warnings, some 16 foreign trawlers were found sailing within the Indian waters, Vice Admiral V.A. Kamath, head of an interim coastguard organisation said.

Adm Kamath said the Indian Navy had been telling foreign vessels to keep off the 200-mile economic zone, still more than a dozen had been sighted off the sandheads near Calcutta and some others off Karwar and Dwarka near Gujarat.

MALARIA RESEARCH

New Delhi, Feb. 26 (Samachar): The Indian Council of Medical Research has asked the Government for an allocation of Rs. 1 crore for research of Malaria in view of its growing incidence in the country.

Lillian Carter turns admirer

Vikhroli, India — President Jimmy Carter's mother flew home after a nostalgic three day visit to India that she said changed her mind about Indira Gandhi and turned her into an admirer of the Indian prime minister.

Recalling her visit with the prime minister, Lillian Carter told reporters she found her to be "a very nice woman, a very warm woman."

"I came out of there admiring her very much and my whole opinion of her changed," the President's 78-year-old mother said.

Mrs. Carter had been quoted last October as criticizing Mrs. Gandhi because food aid allegedly failed to reach India's poor and instead went to "the big shots." Mrs. Carter told reporters she was misquoted.

The trip to India as head of the U.S. delegation at the funeral of Indian President Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed ended with a nostalgic return to this Bombay suburb where she worked as a Peace Corps nurse a decade ago.

Weary but still energetic after what appeared to be a successful goodwill mission, Mrs. Carter said she had been deeply moved by her reception in Vikhroli, a simple industrial community some 15 miles northeast of Bombay, where she had been one of the Peace Corps' oldest volunteers.

"Everything they have done today has touched me to the bone," she told U.S. correspondents aboard the presidential plane. "After you all leave, I'm going to cry. Don't anyone come in my room."

The President's mother was mobbed by her old friends, co-workers and patients when she visited her old apartment and the little dispensary where she used to give injections and family planning advice.

It also was where she overcame her anxieties about working with lepers, whom she helped to treat.

Thousands of workers and many of the children Mrs. Carter had once nursed greeted her with warm cheers, a garland of sandalwood and a handmade necklace, small tokens for the unusual Georgia woman one old friend described as "charming, straight from the heart."

A group of children sang a song to Mrs. Carter to the tune of the Battle Hymn of the Republic. The song was "Welcome, Welcome, Welcome, Lady Dear," with lyrics about their old friend "Nurse Lillian."

"I've never been so happy in my life," Mrs. Carter told the crowd, "I've forgotten Jimmy is the president. I don't even care."

Mrs. Carter recalled the humble way she had arrived in India in 1966 when her now famous son was only a defeated Georgia gubernatorial candidate.

"Everywhere I've been since I left here I've told of my love for Vikhroli, not just India, but Vikhroli," Mrs. Carter continued in her slow Southern drawl.

"This is where I wanted to be for seven years."

At the clinic she met several patients she had treated, including 40-year-old Shri Nath. "My God, now I remember him. I cured him of asthma," she explained.

When she was given a shawl by a group of nurses, Mrs. Carter just shook her head at all the kindness. "I feel like an angel and I'm not."

At her old apartment, Mrs. Carter was presented with 50 pairs of Indian leather sandals and she chose six pairs to take home.

"They told me to take as many as I wanted. I just cried," the President's mother said.

At the Bombay airport after the five-hour visit to Vikhroli, Mrs. Carter was again garlanded and nearly smothered with well-wishers before boarding the plane.

"Today, when I saw that crowd, I really forgot I was the President's mother," she said, slumping in a huge swivel chair. "I was one of them again, just like I used to be."

When Mrs. Carter was in India she was deeply moved by the poverty, the medical conditions and the entire Indian social system, to the extent that she often said later she had left a part of her heart in India.

Mrs. Carter's energy and good spirits throughout the wearying days left many a Secret Service man and delegation member breathless.

"She has worn me out," said Chip Carter, the President's 26-year-old son, who helped his grandmother wherever she went.

Many Indians hoped her visit would be a large step toward improving Indo-American relations. The whole delegation were constantly urged to return soon, and to bring with them the fellow the Indians now all call "Jimmy."

[AP]

India Beaten

New Delhi, Feb. 27 (Samachar): A Japanese youth team beat an Indian team 5-0 in an international team event organised as an extension of the Motilal Nehru Memorial open (Prize money) table tennis tournament here.

Japan's number four Hiroyuki Abe and Masao Shimizu clinched two matches each while the other was won by Nitsuru Tomita.

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ICA Charitable Trust moves another step forward

The India Canada Association Charitable Trust of Ottawa held its annual general meeting on February 2 at the community centre.

The Chairman Dr. Shiv Chopra gave a detailed report of the progress of the Trust.

The Trust was formed and registered as a charitable organisation four years ago. Building a community centre was one of its original objectives, the others being educational, religious and any other charitable needs in the community.

The ICACT has come a long way during its rather short life of four years. 48 acres (later surveyed only to find that it is really 53 acres - a welcome surprise gift indeed) of rentable agricultural land has been purchased at a cost of $28,000, and Municipal permission has been obtained to erect a community centre. Thanks to the generocity of Dr. and Mrs. Shiv Jindal, the community centre is temporarily housed at their newly built home.

The Trust has cosponsored religious discourses. A monthly Havan is held at the community centre. Another activity of the Trust that deserves mention is the children's field hockey - the Indio-Canadian Field Hockey Club - in Ottawa. Thanks to the dedicated service of Dr. S Chander this sports activity has proved to be a success. Other individual and community needs have also been met by the Trust.

Like any organisation, the backbone of the Trust is a few dedicated members; and the Trust is what it is today due to their hard work. It, no doubt, needs the support of many more members and it is hoped that more would come forward to take membership and provide their services. The annual membership fee is $60. (only $5.00 a month!)

Dave Basu, Dr. Madhu Sahasrabhudhe and Dr. Bhagwan Shah are the newly elected trustees for a term of two years.

For the outgoing trustees, Kanu Bhatt, Dr. Dinesh Bhatnagar and Chairman Dr. Shiv Chopra, it has been a productive and gratifying term. Many thanks for bringing us another step closer to our goal.

Dr.Paul honoured

Dr. G.S. Paul of Dept. of Sociology, University of Edmonton has been awarded a Government of Alberta Achievement Award by Premier Peter Lougheed for ethno-cultural activities.

GOLD PRODUCTION UP

New Delhi, Feb. 27 (Samachar): Production of gold by the public sector Bharat Gold Mines Limited Karnataka, has touched a new high of 18 lakh grammes in 1976-77.

Canada has a new citizenship act

It became effective February 15, 1977

The day that you acquire your Canadian Citizenship, with all its privileges and obligations, will be a proud one for you.

The day that you acquire your Canadian Citizenship, with all its privileges and obligations, will be a proud one for you.

The new Citizenship Act does not change the Status of those who are already Canadian Citizens.

Landed immigrants who wish to become citizens will be interested in these changes under the new law:-

1. Women and men are treated equally- regardless of marital status.
2. Applicants must have been resident in Canada for three years.
3. The age of majority is 18 years.
4. Applicants from all countries are treated equally.

As in the past, there is an application fee but officers of the Department of the Secretary of State will provide free information and assistance in the preparation of your application form.

For further details write or visit the Court of Canadian Citizenship nearest you. Or contact: The Registrar of Canadian Citizenship, 130 Slater Street, Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0M5.

Secretary of State — John Roberts, Minister

Secrétariat d'État — John Roberts, Ministre

Kitchen Korner

Mrs. Pranati SenGupta

EASTER PARTY

Last couple of months I wrote recipes in this column for the non-vegetarians only. But the other day I received a call from one of my vegetarian readers who said: "Hey! What about us?" Yes, we meat lovers try to forget that there is a vast & rich cuisine with vegetables. With this thought in mind I planned this Easter recipes on vegetarian diet. Vegetarianism is anything but dull. The word vegetarian comes from Latin, vegetus, which means whole, fresh and lively. In the nineteenth century it was used to describe people who do not consume meat, fish or poultry but may eat eggs and dairy products.

But today, controversy often arises over the comparative qualities of vegetable protein and animal protein. There is so much psychology involved in the very act of eating. A tremendous amount of research is being done to find the specific symptoms which may occur when certain amino acids are lacking. Maybe sometime in the near future we may learn more about the role each amino acid plays in maintaining the body. A diet that contains any of a number of sources of vegetable protein plus dairy products will easily fulfill these requirements. Since a quart of milk supplies 32 to 35 grams of protein the person who drinks milk and takes milk product usually finds adequate protein intake. But the one who dislikes milk or does not eat milk products has to search for wheat germ, soybeans, yeast and nuts to obtain sufficient amounts of amino acids. A vegetarian dinner ending with 'Payesh' (rice pudding), for example, will supply large amount of protein. Like amino acids, as scientists are still making new discoveries about the various nutrients essential to maintaining health, magnesium at present is getting a good deal of attention. Getting magnesium is no problem with a vegetarian diet, because whole grains, nuts, dried beans and leafy vegetables are fine sources of magnesium.

Vegetarian cookery is not a substitute for anything. It is full of many marvelous dishes. In fact, it is the possibility of endless variety that helps create a whole new style of eating. The following recipes will give you an idea about how to be a vegetarian gourmet. Carrots are one of our oldest cultivated vegetables and extremely rich in valuable vitamins and minerals. Avoid paring when possible but scrub with a hard nylon brush. They are delicious raw and can be magnificent when cooked with care. Cook with minimum of liquid. Take care in the cooking of vegetables, because they are among the most healthful foods that we eat.

CARROT PARATHA

Filling: 3 cups finely grated carrot (3 large ones)
4 tbsp. ghee, salt to taste
2 tbsp. hot garam masala (made from whole dried chili, black pepper, cumin, cinnamon, cloves, cardamoms, roasted and ground
Dough: 2 cups sifted all-purpose flour
1 tsp. baking powder, 1 tsp. salt
3 tbsp. (2 oz.) shortening or butter
2/3 cup water
Ghee or shortening

Heat ghee in a pan and cook carrot, stirring, about 5 minutes. Cover and cook gently until carrot is very tender. Uncover and mash with a wooden spoon. Sprinkle garam masala and salt. Mix well. Remove from heat and cool.

Combine flour, baking powder, salt in a large bowl. Rub in shortening, add water and knead well. Shape into 6 balls of equal size. Cover and leave for ½ hour. With your hand, make a depression in each ball, put a couple of spoons of the carrot mixture into the depression, and then reform the ball so the carrot mixture is enclosed. Flatten each ball and roll out to make a circle, with a greased rolling pin, as thin as possible, (keeping the seam side up) about 1/8 inch thickness. Place these parathas onto a lightly greased girddle. Brown one side, brush top with ghee or shortening, and turn to brown the other side. These paratha will puff up while cooking. When each one is browned on both sides, and cooked thoroughly, wrap in foil to keep warm. If there is carrot mixture left, it can be stored in the refrigerator or frozen for the next batch of paratha.

Toronto Police has ethnic squads

By Ruth Gordon

(Canadian Scene)--Toronto is one of the great multicultural centres of the world. The proliferation of different races continues, and with it, inevitably, have come tensions, anxieties and disturbing incidents.

"It is, and will remain, one of the best cities in the world in which to live," said Staff Sergeant Howard Cameron during a recent visit to Canadian Scene. "If its citizens will see the police department as their department. It can only be as good as they want to make it."

The Ethnic Relations Squad has active units in the Italian and Black communities, and recently launched a new unit to investigate problems among East Indians and Pakistani. "But we don't care what the ethnic origin is," Cameron emphasized. "Anyone can call us with any problem." These complaints are handled by Community Services Officers who work in neighbourhoods in the same manner as the Ethnic Relations Squads. All these officers carry business cards for identification.

The Community Services Officers and Special Ethnic Squads can be reached at 967-2029, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. for general complaints; 967-2222, 24 hours a day for emergencies.

Seminar on racial harmony held

Olga Ghosh

A seminar was held on February 18 at the Public Library the title of which was "Racial Harmony and Education."

Following a few words by the National President, of NACOI, Ranjit Hall, the Ottawa Convenor Navin Parekh explained that this was the first of a series of discussions. Others to follow would concern themselves with such topics as "the Bill of Rights", Racial Discrimination and the Law", "Racial Discrimination and the role of the Media", etc.. He then went on to introduce the panel: Ivan D'Costa, an economist with the Federal Government, Dr. Bhatnagar, a Scientific Advisor with the Federal Government, and Nazru Deen, a Vice Principal with the Carleton Board of Education.

The audience was composed of representatives from several groups, such as the Canada Associations of India Sri Lanka, Pakistan, and Bangladesh. Also present in the audience was a representative from the Department of the Secretary of State, Andre Foret.

The three panelists gave well prepared papers which later provided a focal point for discussion. Mr. D'Costa explored racial discrimination in the classroom. This is caused by ignorance, pride and fear, he said. He talked about the "scapegoat syndrome" and suggested that much discrimination has its roots in exploitation political and economical. "Prejudice is not inborn", he said.

Dr. Bhatnagar suggested that it might be wise for groups from the sub-continent of India to make some adjustments in their behaviour so as not to offend against social customs existing in Canada. "Our lifestyle is not inferior", he said, "but it may conflict with that existing here".

Nazru Deen stressed that we must have relationships based on respect; "but", he said, "unless we know our roots, we cannot know ourselves."

At the conclusion of the meeting, Mr. Parekh thanked the speakers and echoed the feeling of the audience that this was an instructive and valuable meeting.

Promote tolerence: Women urged

Ottawa — Women here were urged to influence their children and husbands to practise tolerance towards fellow Canadians of different racial origins.

Speaking to the Ottawa Women's Liberal Club, Raghav Santana, coordinator of Foodwill Canada, said combatting prejudice in the home would be more effective than passing a set of laws aimed at changing people's attitudes. Goodwill Canada is an Ottawa group working to promote racial harmony in the country.

Mr. Santana said many native-born Canadians do not realize that it would have cost close to five billion dollars to give comparable education and training to the immigrants who arrived here between 1950 and 1961, if they had had to be educated in Canada.

The cost of raising a child from birth through university — to the family of the child and the government — would bearound $40,000 per child, he said.

Adult immigrants with professional education and training acquired their skills at the expense of taxpayers in countries where they were born. Canada thus gains valuable expertise from immigrants without having to provide funds to train those people, he added.

It has been estimated that the dollar value of Canada's gain in manpower resources from developing countries such as India, Pakistan, Bangla Desh and Sri Lanka far exceeds its contribution in foreign aid to those countries, he said.

Citing the advantages of a generous immigration policy, Mr. Santana said Canada has "living space" that can support a larger population. The country has relatively abundant natural resources compared to most other countries and immigration would create a larger domestic market for Canadian goods and services, reducing our dependence on foreign markets.

If we do not populate our land it will eventually be taken from us by those who require it, he said, quoting Economics Professor Constantine Passaris of the University of New Brunswick.

Mr. Santana deplored the methodology used in a recent survey of Ontario schools funded by the department of the secretary of state which concluded there was considerable prejudice among students.

By showing slides such as one of two women in front of a house, the survey concluded that students were prejudiced against those women. Actually, he said, 80 per cent of the students thought the women — resembling East Indians — owned the expensive-looking house in the background. This suggests the students thought East Indians were capable of improving their standard of living, he said.

[The Ottawa Journal]

They were elected

The Federal Council of Indo-Canadian Association:

V. Basavaiah - President,
Vino Vasani - Vice-President,
Rithin Ghose - General Secretary,
Ashvin Morjana - Joint Secretary,
Dileep Thatte - Joint Secretary,
Sudhir Gandhi - Treasurer.

This association is a Federation of various Indian Associations in the Metro Toronto area. The last General Body meeting on Feb. 13th, was chaired by the outgoing Chairman S.B. Shah. It was attended by the representatives of fourteen Associations.

ACCORD WITH EEC

New Delhi, Feb. 25 (Samachar): India and the European Economic Community have agreed to cooperate in scientific fields like solar energy.

Oil for Vietnam

New Delhi, Feb. 28 (Samachar) India has offered to help the Democratic Republic of Vietnam in oil exploration and production.

The offer was made by Union Petroleum Minister K.D. Malaviya during a meeting with Vietnamese Deputy Foreign Minister Phan Hein who was recently here to represent his country at the funeral of late President Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed.

Award for Kannada Playwright

New Delhi, Feb. 27 (Samachar). The prestigious Kamaladevi Chattopadhyaya play of the year award" has been awarded to Dr. Chandrashekara Kambar for his Kannada Play "Jokumaraswamy" the Bharatiya Natya Sangh announced.

The award comprises Rs. 5,000 in cash.

Dr. Kambar teaches at Bangalore University. He is the author of nine plays and a collection of poems.

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Well settled match for Hindu divorcee girl, 34, 5'3", fair complexion, graduate student Canadian University, excellent employment opportunities. Has son age 5. Reply #M-1180, The Canadian India Times.

Suitable match for a Khatri girl from cultured family now visiting Canada. Graduate from Gujarat University - Teacher in India. Age 30, height 5'-2". No caste bar. Marriage in Canada/New Delhi. Contact #M-1212, The Canadian India Times.

Wanted an immigrant girl for handsome Brahamin bachelor, 28, M.A. English, B.Ed from India, studying and working in Canada. Early marriage, caste no bar. #M-1213, The Canadian India Times.

Correspondence invited from professionals for a Punjabi girl, [illegible], M.A., B.Ed presently in India. Send details with returnable photograph to #M-1214 The Canadian India Times.

Matrimonial correspondence invited for an attractive, slim, Sindhi girl, 29, 5'-4", M.A. from India and presently enrolled in a Canadian Secretarial College. Please send full details to M-1215, The Canadian India Times.

Wanted a suitable North Indian match for 23 year old Kayastha girl settled in Canada. Earning $800/month. Good family connections. Apply in confidence to #M-1216, The Canadian India Times.

Wanted an educated match for an educated girl, 34, divorcee, son 5 years. Write to: Janki, 461-E, 10th Avenue, Vancouver, B.C.

Suitable match for handsome Sikh Ranigarhia "Bhamra" boy 25 years, height 5'-10", M.A. Early marriage. Brother well settled in B.C. Contact at this address: Box 642, Fernie, B.C. Phone 423-6033 (604).

Immigrant match for Gujarati handsome Jain Male, 23. Presently residing in Bombay. Family well settled in Canada. Gujaratis only need apply in U.S.A. or Canada. Box Number 54, Transcona, Winnipeg, Manitoba, R2C-2Z5.

Wanted a beautiful and well educated girl for a Punjabi Arora (non Sikh) Engineer (M.E.M.S.), 28, qualified from and settled in U.S.A. Belongs to a family of professionals well settled in New Delhi and North America. Correspond with Chander, 26 Gifford Street, Apt. 6, Toronto, M5A 3J1 Phone (416) 961-6231.

Match for a very handsome, tall, boy, 34. Associate professor in Computer Sciences in U.S.A. Belongs to a highly educated, cultured and well established family in North America. Professional girls preferred. Write P.O. Box 361, Station 'D', Toronto.

Suitable match wanted for an ambitious 24 year old accountant immigrating to Canada shortly. Detailed correspondence is invited from well-educated girls between 20-24. Brother settled in Canada. Write in confidence to: Satya N. Aggarwal, Language Arts Supervisor, Green Bay Integ. School Board, Springdale, AOJ1TO, Newfoundland.

Engineer, Punjabi Origin, invites correspondence from educated, sharp and beautiful girl, please write to:
Kehar, 40 Doverdale News (S.E.), Calgary, Alberta, T2B 1V9

Match for a very handsome, tall, boy, 34. Belongs to a highly educated, cultured and well established family in North America. Professional girls preferred. Write P.O. Box 361, Station "D", Toronto.

Horoscope

Horoscope casting, palm-reading. 26 years experience. All problems solved. Spiritual healing. Meditation, Yoga lessons. Call - Dev, 766-2626 Toronto.

Indian engineers' achievement

Bhilai, (Samachar): Engineers at the Bhilai Steel Plant's captive iron ore mines have remodelled mining mechanisation designed originally by foreign experts to increase production.

The modifications were needed to remove certain inherent constraints which had frustrated all attempts at raising production to the rated capacity in the last decade.

Before the new scheme was introduced, the annual output of the captive iron ore mine at Rajhara in the west Raipur region of Madhya Pradesh was between 1.9 to 2 million tonnes. Now, however, it has been rising. The mine yielded 2.57 million tonnes of ore last year.

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